# New York Tribune

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements.

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## As to the Lusitania

The Tribune disagrees with Mr. Hughes in the matter of the Lusitania, if by his Louisville utterance he meant to express the belief that had the German government known in advance that the sinking of the Lusitania would be followed merely by a severance of diplomatic relations it would have refrained from the crime.

The only chance that there was of preventing this crime was to establish the fact in the German mind that to murder American citizens was to bring the United States into the war. The Lusitania Massacre was an act of war; it could only have been avoided by serving notice upon Germany that an act of war against the United States would be followed by a condition of war. Such a condition of war would have meant, for example, the immediate loss of the millions of dollars represented by the German ships interned in this and other American ports. It would have meant the eventual loss incident to American participation in the economic alliance of the Entente Powers to cripple German trade after the war.

The German government cares nothing about formalities or technicalities. It cares nothing about friendly relations with the United States. It cares nothing about anything but success in the war in which it is engaged. Friendly relations with the United States will not help the Germans to win the war. Sinking British ships would and will contribute more or less to German interest.

The nation which invaded Belgium in defiance of all considerations of faith and honor and in the face of the practical certainty of British participation in the war as a consequence would not withhold its hand in the case of American lives, if the extreme peril to be run was an interruption of diplomatic relations and a cessation of communications, mainly at the mercy of Allied censors.

The German government only abandoned its submarine campaign when it became convinced that the people of the United States would no longer tolerate these crimes and that public sentiment would drive a weak and supine Administration into a defence of American lives. It is only a little while since the German Chancellor himself said publicly that the German government changed its course in the submarine matter because the profit of the old policy was not comparable with its possible cost, and this cost was a war with the United States, as he indicated by implication rather than direct statement.

Neither Mr. Hughes nor any other American should misunderstand the conditions under which Germany refrains from murdering Americans on the high seas. Germany will return to this policy the moment she is convinced that there is a profit in it. If the sole danger it involves is the dismissal of Bernstorff and the recall of Gerard, Germany will begin without delay. She would begin the day Mr. Hughes entered the White House if she were satisfied that this was the utmost that Mr. Hughes was prepared to advocate as an answer to German massacres.

It is an altogether vicious idea to imagine that one can deal with the German government of the hour and the German people in its present mood in the manner in which one might deal with an individual or a nation chiefly concerned with nice questions of honor or humanity. Germany is in the mood of a wild beast and she has broken over every restraint which civilization and honor impose. She can be restrained only by fear of gaining a new enemy, whose actual opposition would be more useful to her enemies than the submarine campaign would be costly to Germany.

It was because Mr. Wilson convinced Germany that he would do nothing but write notes that Germany pursued her campaign of assassination which cost so many American women and children, as well as men, their lives. It was when the temper and spirit of the American people was revealed as wholly different from that of the President and about to coerce the President into a defence of American lives that Germany abandoned her course. What Mr. Wilson would never have done, on his own initiative, Germany perceived he would be compelled to do under the pressure of American public sentiment; then she paused.

An act of war can be met only by a declaration of war. Germany's murder of American citizens was an act of war. She would not have committed it if she had believed it would be met by a declaration of war. She will not return to the policy of murder as long as she believes that it will bring war, but she will not postpone a return to the old policy one day after she beheves that it will not bring war.

## The Last Chance to Register

This is the last day of registration in New York City. The registration places will be open from 7 a. m. until 10:30 p. m. A voter who fails to register debars himself from casting his ballot in this important election.

No time remains now for the sluggards or the habitual "do it to-morrow" men. The duty of proving the right to vote on Election Day may be postponed no longer. Whoever lets slip to-day's opportunity must be content to be politically neuter this year; he must give up his right to participate in a referendum on the conduct of this country's affairs in the most critical period Americans have known since the Civil War. The fullest expression of the popular will is to be desired. Women are working day and night in this state to obtain the right to express their views at the polls. Any male citizen who, having that right, forfeits it by neglect or refusal to take the trouble to register sets small store by it and argues himself unworthy of his opportunities. The election boards will be working all day and all the evening for the late comers. Be sure to register to-day!

## The Baseball Crown

The World's Championship series of 1916 sputtered out dismally. There was no real contest. Brooklyn accepted defeat at the hands of the Red Sox with what looked very much like the resignation of fatalism. A year ago the Philadelphia Nationals put up a somewhat stiffer fight against Boston. But the Philadelphia and Brooklyn teams both played below paper form. They seemed to be overweighted by the consciousness that it was up to them to restore the rapidly waning prestige of the National League.

The Eastern public has been reluctant to acknowledge the inferiority of the senior partner in Organized Baseball. Especially in this city there has been a persistent disregard of the signs pointing to stagnation and retrogression in the older league. The clubs in the American circuit have been materially strengthened and their standards of play have been raised. But in the National circuit past performances overshadow the performances of to-day. There is no team which can dim the glories of the old Cub machine under Chance or of the Giants in their prime, five, six or seven years ago.

The American League now definitely outclasses the National League. It has better batters, better pitchers, better fielders and better base runners. It is a more evenly balanced organization, with playing strength better distributed. It has no chronic candidates for the second division, if allowance be made for the travesty on ball-playing staged for the last two seasons by that once famous impresario, Mr. Cornelius McGillicuddy.

Baseball statistics only fortify the impression of greater playing strength in the junior organization to be gathered by casual observation of the work of the teams in the two leagues. Twelve American League players had batting averages of more than .300 in the season just closed. In the National League only eight players batted better than .300. The highest individual batting average in the National League (for players playing in more than one hundred games) was .335 (Hal Chase's). Jake Daubert was second with .322. But in the American League Tris Speaker batted .383 and Ty Cobb .366.

In long distance hitting there were three American players with higher averages than the average of the highest National leaguer. The best American average for base stealing was .46; the best National average was .39. In team batting Detroit, American, led both leagues; in club fielding Boston, American, was in the lead.

In the post-season games this year Boston beat Brooklyn four games to one; the Chicago Americans beat the Chicago Nationals four games straight; the St. Louis Americans beat the St. Louis Nationals four games to one. In the post-season series of 1915 the Boston Americans beat the Philadelphia Nationals four games to one; the Chicago Americans beat the Chicago Nationals four games to one; the St. Louis Americans beat the St. Louis Nationals four games to one. In the last seven years the National organization has won only one world's series.

For this startling inferiority all along the line there can be only one explanation—inefficient methods and management in the National League. This league, for one thing, pins its faith too much to veteran players. For example, the Boston Americans defeated the Giants in the world's series of 1913. But in 1915, when the Boston team played the Philadelphia Nationals for the world's title, it presented an entirely new staff of pitchers—all of them stars. In the series this year Brooklyn depended largely on Marquard and Coombs. But both of those twirlers appeared in world series of the past—in 1913 and prior years—though not then under contract with Brooklyn. Manager McGraw kept the old Giant team intact—a collection of veterans—until it rusted, snapped and fell into last place or thereabouts.

The American League managers are keener to hunt out and develop new players. Youth must have its way in a sport like baseball, in which it is much better to experiment than to stand pat. That is to a large extent the secret of the junior league's success—a success which has been startlingly emphasized once more by the hollow, one-sided character of this year's fight for first honors in the baseball world.

## Court of Appeals Efficiency

In not a single instance during the last thirty years have the people of the state chosen as the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals one who was not a member of that court at the time of his election. For a generation or more the choice has invariably been made from among those of ripe experience upon that bench. The wisdom of this is manifest. The ablest of practitioners at the bar, even the most competent of judges of another court, cannot take up the duties of presiding judge of the highest tribunal of the state and perform them as efficiently as a man who has long and faithfully served as associate judge and become intimately acquainted with the rules, practices, traditions and decisions of the court.

Whether the experiment shall be tried of setting aside this well established and salutary rule is an issue to be decided at the November election. Chief Judge Bartlett retires at the end of this year because of constitutional limitation of age. To fill the vacancy, the Republicans have nominated Frank H. Hiscock, Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, who has served continuously in that court since 1906. The Democrats have nominated Almet F. Jenks, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Second Department, who has never sat in the higher court.

If there were any doubt of Judge Hiscock's fitness for the place the question might be an essentially different one. But it is no disparagement of Justice Jenks's fine judicial qualities to state what seems to be the well recognized fact: that no occupant of the bench in this state stands higher than Judge Hiscock in the general regard of the bar for his uprightness, ability and efficiency and for the possession of the finest judicial qualities. In our judgment fairness to the other judges of the court and the protection of the best public interests call for the election of Judge Hiscock as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.

## Defective Criminals

Reestablishment of the police bureau for defectives, or psychopathic laboratory, is an event on which the public is to be congratulated. It is unfortunate, perhaps, that this significant public work should have to be carried on by funds privately subscribed, instead of by public moneys. Nevertheless, the resumption of the work, now in an experimental stage, though hardly to be considered an experiment because of the results already produced, must demonstrate its value in penology to such an extent that public money will be forthcoming to extend the scope of the plan to the entire city.

It is manifestly absurd that a mental defective should, as has occurred with many of them, be sentenced and serve his term with ordinary criminals, to come out and repeat the crime and the servitude. That is to impose on the community a heavy charge for police, courts and jails without adequate protection for society or any hope of help for the individual. The advantage of the psychopathic laboratory is that it weeds out from the crop of criminals those of pronounced mental defects, gives opportunity for study of their cases, and leads to hospital treatment where cure is possible, or to life segregation if that seems the only way to protect the community against the unfortunates. That is surely a more sensible and a more humane way to treat these defectives than to have them a constant menace when not in jail and a charge on the taxpayers when incarcerated.

## An Embargo on Foodstuffs

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Is The Tribune so determined to see the efforts of the Allies successful that it believes in the unregulated shipment of those foodstuffs for which the producer is making the American workman pay prices as high or higher than the foreign buyers? I am in favor of the Allies, but not to that extent. Don't you think an embargo in this case would better conditions?

THEODORE MICHEL.

Brooklyn, Oct. 10, 1916.

## How About Belgium?

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The Ambassador from Hunland in an interview says that his country always keeps its promises. How about the solemn promise to respect the neutrality of Belgium?

JOHN E. BOULTENHOUSE.

New York, Oct. 10, 1916.

## Back to the Slate

*(From The Brooklyn Eagle.)*

The story that in the shortage of paper there is hope for the old school slate seems too good to be true. Yet it is perhaps true that the board of superintendents has discussed this possibility, and it certainly is true that supplying the schools with paper is exceedingly difficult.

Middle-aged men who never thought of school without a slate for doing sums on were shocked at the waste when "educators" brought about the abolition of the slate. Paper is used up fast; fast enough to suit any paper trust on earth. The slate would go on forever if you didn't take a notion to fling it at teacher's head and unhappily break it on her desk instead.

"Educators" said the slate was noisy, dirty, demoralizing. They intimated that slate and discipline were compatible if you had plenty of corporal punishment, and not otherwise. They worried when Jennie Jones drew a caricature picture, and all who could see giggled, and a swift stroke of the sleeve made Jennie's conviction impossible. As a matter of fact, the slate required a real teacher to deal with its possibilities, and real teachers are scarce.

For ourselves, we take the middle-age or mediæval view. The use of paper always has been a waste. The slate was just as good, except for the paper manufacturers. The litter involved in using paper is worse than the uncleaned slate, more trouble for some one to put things right, and when it comes to rival trust interests, the slate quarries are to be considered. They have been hard hit in several different ways of late years. Patent roofing has almost banished slate roofs. Artificial stone has nearly wiped out the sale of sidewalk paving. The "educators" have destroyed in the cities the demand for school slates. Hence, the quarries up Granville way and elsewhere are in a state of depression. Revival of the old school slate will help them.

## The Negro Laborer

*(From The Rochester Herald.)*

Southern industries find themselves in a peculiar position because the scarcity of labor in the North has sent many industrial agents into that territory in search of negroes for various kinds of work. It is said that the Pennsylvania Railroad has taken 4,500 colored men from below Mason and Dixon's line into its employ, and an Ohio iron mill has secured a thousand of these negro workers, and expresses satisfaction with their labor.

At the capital of Alabama much alarm is expressed at this exodus of the negro worker, and the City Council has hastily enacted an ordinance penalizing the commercial agent from the North who invades that city on enticement bent. Other places probably will take the same means to discourage the activities of these agents.

It is a long lane that has no turn, and the creation of a labor famine in the agricultural and manufacturing industries of Dixie may arouse that section to an appreciation of negro labor which has not been very much in evidence in recent years. We have heard a great deal about the "trifling nigger" down there, but precious little about the industrious ones. If the creation of a labor famine in that section shall have the effect of arousing the South to an appreciation of the negro's economic value a great deal will have been accomplished in the settlement of what has come to be considered a vexing "problem."

## Mr. Hughes's Philadelphia Speech

*(Gerard, in The Philadelphia Ledger.)*

Comments I heard around me at the Hughes meeting in the Opera House:

"His beard is not so gray as I thought it was from his photographs."

"What a deep voice he has!"

"Wonder why he wore a sack coat."

"Glad he only refers to his notes occasionally."

I have heard a good many Presidents or Presidential candidates speak—Blaine, Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley, Bryan, Roosevelt, Taft and Wilson. Mr. Hughes compares favorably with that exalted coterie as a stump speaker.

He is highly argumentative, as were Blaine and Harrison. He is less incisive than Roosevelt and not so rotundly oratorical as Bryan and McKinley.

President Wilson's style is the most polished of all, the most precise in its correctness of diction.

But the President does not reach so many snappy climaxes which command cheers as did Blaine and Bryan. Some of Mr. Hughes's sentences are very long. He has no little affectations of speech, and does not, as so many public talkers do, have a few pet words which he pronounces differently from nearly everybody else. I like that.

## Autumn

*(From The Atlantic Monthly.)*

Now when the time of fruit and grain is come,
When apples hang above the orchard wall,
And from a tangle by the roadside stream
A scent of wild grapes fills the racy air,
Comes Autumn with her sun-burnt caravan,
Like a long gypsy train with trappings gay
And tattered colors of the Orient,
Moving slow-footed through the dreamy hills.
The woods of Wilton, at her coming, wear
Tints of Bokhara and of Samarcand;
The maples glow with their Pompeian red,
The hickories with burnt Etruscan gold;
And while the crickets fife along her march
Behind her banners burns the crimson sun.

BLISS CARMAN.

## CHAMELEON CHARACTERISTICS

### Mr. Wilson Has Proved Himself Unfit To Be Leader

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: It is not because of literary proficiency or learning alone that we elevate a man to the head of the nation. He must possess executive ability. He must be a man of quick decision, firmness of purpose, and, above all, his ideals—lofty as they may be—should not interfere with practical and proper interests. A President, furthermore, should not be too self-reliant. He should recognize the fact that there are other opinions than his own and other intellects equal to his, and that, on all world-wide questions, advice should be taken as well as given.

While Mr. Wilson is self-reliant to a degree, yet, in watching his varying attitudes during the last two years, one cannot but feel that he is afflicted too much with a certain characteristic of the chameleon. It is right to change when in the wrong, and credit is due for such a change, but if a man's prescience is so dim that he overlooks the best thing to do, the really necessary thing to do, when thousands of lesser men see it, then by just so much is he unfitted to be a leader of men. Mr. Wilson has said, in substance, "Be not deceived, this nation is prepared," and the incompetent Secretary of the Navy, Daniels, then as now, at heart a pacifist, listened with nods of approval. Every tyro who thought at all knew better. This nation was not prepared, nor is it now.

For what has since been done let us be thankful; but the Democratic Congress, the President and the Secretary of the Navy have literally been kicked into doing some part of their duty in this respect.

The most amazing thing was to see the President, a year after this remark of his, set out on a whirlwind tour of the country preaching preparedness with more than Rooseveltian energy. We must not only have a large navy, but the greatest in the world. No one, before or since, has outdone him in flaming energy along this line. And yet, and yet, when he returned to the quiet of the White House I cannot see that in any but the mildest way, if at all, he urged action to a recalcitrant Congress.

This is my greatest grievance against Mr. Wilson; this and his abject surrender to the labor unions, in which we saw the humiliating spectacle of our national Congress cowed and forced into class legislation.

A. D. ROCKWELL.

Flushing, N. Y., Oct. 11, 1916.

## Mr. Hughes on Hyphenism

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Quite a number of my friends who are very strong on the hyphen question refuse to come out for Mr. Hughes, saying that Mr. Hughes has not declared himself on this subject. The following clean-cut statements have evidently been forgotten, certainly show where Mr. Hughes stands and leave little to be desired, unless people want him to expressly come out against some particular kind of hyphen, which would be manifestly unfair. Telegram to Warren G. Harding, chairman National Republican Convention, upon being notified of his nomination:

"I stand for an Americanism that knows no ulterior purpose; for a patriotism that is single and complete. Whether native or naturalized, of whatever race or creed, we have but one country, and we do not intend to tolerate any division of allegiance."

Again in his letter to O. K. Davis, secretary of the Progressive National Committee, under date of June 26:

"We unite in the demand for an undivided and unwavering loyalty to our country; for a wholehearted patriotic devotion, overriding all racial differences. We strongly denounce the use of our soil as a base for alien intrigues, for conspiracies, and the fomenting of disorders in the interest of any foreign nation, but the responsibility lies at the door of the Administration. The moment notice is admitted responsibility is affixed. For that sort of thing could not continue if the Administration took proper measures to stop it."

WILSON D. LYON.

New York, Oct. 11, 1916.

## Columbus Day

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I find myself confronted with a conundrum. This day, October 12, by virtue of an act of the Legislature, is a holiday in the State of New York, yet passing through the streets of this city no one could detect a cessation of labor anywhere; all stores were open, factories, if anything, seemed more than ordinarily busy; there were the same week-day crowds, in lower Broadway, and they were not pleasure bent.

My thoughts drift back to last Saturday, when the business districts of Manhattan looked deserted. Broadway, between Canal and Twenty-third streets, had the aspect of a cemetery at midnight. One of the busiest post-offices in the wholesale district on ordinary days, Station D, at Fourth Avenue, was open for business, but there were no clients. To-day, of course, that office was closed; but I saw a number of people vainly attempting to obtain entry.

I begin to wonder if it is not a waste of time for the State Legislature to create a legal holiday since apparently, in this city at least, no business man beyond Wall Street seems to recognize it. Perhaps the state sets too high a value on patriotism. This city appears to prefer faith. CHARLES SLEEFE.

New York, Oct. 12, 1916.

## Possible vs. Actual Killings

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Why is it that our would-be and must-be "Anglo-Saxon" patriots are so excited about the possible loss of Americans who travel on ships of a country which is at war, while they do not seem to care a rap about the actual loss of Americans killed in Mexico, not at war, where they have been doing a legitimate business?

It is the duty of every good citizen no matter what party he belongs to, no matter from what nation he is descended, to defeat overwhelmingly at the polls our so-called Democratic Wilson Administration.

JOHN J. BROWN.

New York, Oct. 10, 1916.

## What Cannot Be Crushed

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: No matter what that sanctimonious tyrant Mr. Whitridge or the hypocrites Shonts and Hedley may say, every one knows that they treat the men in their employ like dogs. If the present strike is broken sooner or later they will have the same trouble again. There is something in a man's heart that cannot be crushed.

A. MORTENSEN.

New York, Oct. 12, 1916.

## JEOPARDY TO AMERICAN LIVES

### The Sinking of the Stephano, When for the First Time in History American Men, Women and Children Were Set Adrift in Small Boats in the Atlantic

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The newspaper story of the sinking of the steamer Stephano by the submarine U-53 "leaves a bad taste in the mouth" of any American citizen.

It seems that a war submarine captain had ordered the Stephano to stop. The captain of the Stephano had many passengers aboard and stopped his vessel as a matter of course. He was ordered to place the passengers in small boats, so that they might not be drowned when the vessel was sunk. This was hastily done. A majority of the passengers were American citizens. After they were all gone sailors from the submarine went aboard and opened the sea valves of the Stephano, which sank in a few minutes.

The queer feature of the whole matter is that two United States war vessels, known as destroyers, were near by and watched the performance. The reports tell us that officers from these war vessels even went aboard the Stephano and searched her—as if to let the submarine know when she was ready for sinking.

One boatload of passengers contained a man and his wife from Brooklyn and a lady from Long Island. They tell us their boat got about half a mile away from the steamer before they were picked up by one of the United States vessels. The others were picked up before they had got so far away.

Thus for the first time in our history vessels of the United States navy stood by and saw citizens of the United States, men, women and children, turned out of the vessel on which they sailed and put into small boats on the wide Atlantic. They were turned out without opportunity to secure their clothing and other property which they had taken aboard. Fortunately, none of them were lost, but their lives were put in jeopardy—under the watchful care of our navy. Putting passengers on or off a steamer at sea is always considered a dangerous performance, resorted to only in case of shipwreck.

What kind of officers were in charge of these war vessels? If they were performing their duties according to present day instructions, then indeed has our navy fallen to a low level under President Wilson and Daniels, his Secretary of the Navy. Imagine Admiral Farragut or Commodore Perry or Admiral Decatur, or any of our oldtime naval heroes, standing by and witnessing the act of despoiling a lot of American citizens—standing by waiting to pick them up as soon as an unfriendly captain had consigned them to the Atlantic in small boats. Even if these passengers were not American citizens, any of our oldtime sea worthies would have rushed to the rescue in the cause of common humanity.

Any real man seeing his neighbors in a deadly fight would rush in to save their wives and children if they were being injured in the fight. One of our navy captains should do no less.

Those of us who were living forty and odd years ago cannot have forgotten the case of the Virginius, which sailed for Cuba with some 230 soldiers of fortune. They were bound for that island to help the Cuban insurgents in one of their frequent unrisings against Spain. The vessel, with all on board, was captured. A rough and ready Spanish court martial was held and about 230 were sentenced to be shot. Small squads of a half-dozen at a time were to be taken out and, after the Spanish fashion, stood up against a wall, there to be blindfolded and shot down by soldiers.

A British warship lay in the harbor of Havana under command of Captain Williams. The shooting had already commenced when word was brought to the British captain. He immediately notified the Governor of Havana that he had been informed there was a British subject among those to be shot and he wanted to investigate. (Of course, this story of a British subject was a mere excuse.) He notified the Governor that the shooting must stop at once; that if any more were shot he would immediately bombard the city. The butchery stopped.

Thus this British captain saved the lives of nearly 200 Americans, several squads of the prisoners having been put to death before word reached the British vessel. Had Captain Williams been in charge of one of our naval vessels near the Stephano, or of a British vessel, none of the passengers aboard that steamer would have been compelled to take to the small boats, whether they were British subjects or American citizens.

When we think of the act of Captain Williams and the act of our own commanding officers in the case alluded to, we begin to understand why the British flag and the British navy are respected all over the world and loved by subjects of Great Britain. We come to understand why men from every part of the world are rushing by hundreds of thousands to defend the British Empire in the European war.

Nor is it surprising that during the last few years the United States has lost the respect of all the other nations. The standard of United States power is now in the palsied grasp of one who does not understand the dignity or the duties of his position. It is not surprising that the people are anxiously waiting for a chance to let the world know they do not indorse our present rulers; that they are not satisfied with present conditions.

GEORGE WALLACE.

Freeport, N. Y., Oct. 11, 1916.

## ANAEMIC FARMERS

### More Should Be Done to Help and Encourage Rural Dwellers

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A poor old farmer who works sixteen hours a day while serving as local fire warden misjudges the State Fire Warden's signals, allows the Transmission Power Company to burn brush along the right of way and this fire gets away during a violent wind and does several thousand dollars' worth of damage upon his own and neighboring wood lots. This is a severe property loss and the whole community must suffer for an error of judgment.

Farmers so far have never been organized to obtain justice when they have to break over the eight-hour law. Little spiritual light or sympathetic psychology is put before them to show the value of Sabbath breaks of rest from grinding cares. The farmer furnishes the world with the sinews of the body—flesh, blood and bone. Who is travelling alongside his furrow to nourish his soul instincts? Print, the press, the farm journal get before his eyes, but this is a cold handout of mental counsel and stimulus. The feeding public pays high prices for poor goods and the producer suffers many material deprivations compared to what his calling should give him.

This state has many commissions and boards to look out for its varied and complex interests. They should all be so organized as adequately to face these fundamental cares. There can be harmonious coöperation between these different bodies for the welfare of the public. The highway commission directs public road building. Good roads are the blood stream of wholesome industrial life if they serve the farmer, and yet the State Engineering Institution for Agriculture seldom mentions them, gives no practical course or demonstrations to the possible or actual farmer. The average citizen and occasionally the selectmen don't know what gifts of money or kinds of encouragement the commonwealth offers to the small and isolated town for this necessary circulatory channel, roads.

Maps of fifty years ago show many mills now silent turning out various crops of wood products. Why has all that power and profit been drained off to the account of outside interests? The bushes and trees are nature's protest against that excuse manufactured somewhere that such things don't pay. The agricultural college must not allow the idea to get out that it is working in behalf of established industries like the tobacco, onion, apple, milk and truck-gardening lines and is impotent to diagnose the possibilities in forestry, wood and berry crops and to help the many who would and could make a living from the last-named.

Why should any town in this commonwealth be without a moving picture apparatus for educational purposes, if not for amusement? This state receives immense tribute from visitors and diverts great sums of its own in behalf of the theories of education. Why should the practice be so divorced from the theory? Any conference in behalf of rural organizations should not overlook such elemental principles. Two generations ago strength and progress showed themselves in the hills. Why should to-day the various welfare organizations allow nature's crop to be so vigorous and the human element so anæmic? Has the self-respect of the state been purchased along with other things by invaders from the outside who, having made easier fortunes elsewhere, are led to settle here because of scenic, sentimental and theoretical advantages?

P. W. GOLDSBURY.

Warwick, Mass., Oct. 11, 1916.

## CONSUMERS' COOPERATION

### Necessary to Relieve the High Cost of Modern Living

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The letter from "Another Victim" published in this morning's Tribune served a purpose. It showed us that the milk venders and milk dealers are not our only enemies.

Conscienceless middlemen and trusts take toll of us at every turn. They add unearned dollars to the cost of many things which we are forced to buy.

While we protest against the wicked price of milk, the butchers, bakers, poulterers, egg merchants and fish dealers are defrauding us. The most "reputable" firms are now charging 60 cents a dozen for venerable eggs. Embalmed fish and chickens, sold at improbable prices, spread ptomaines through the land, while our bills for meat and bread grow larger weekly.

In an illuminating letter in to-day's Tribune Percy Bullen drew attention to the dirty ways of cows. But cows are clean compared with many New York storekeepers.

After all, though, our chief foes are neither the storekeepers nor the cows, but the grasping, merciless trusts, wholesalers and middlemen. What is possible in time of war abroad should be quite as easy here in time of peace. A limit should be set to the greed of those who produce and sell the necessaries of life. It should be a criminal offence to throw back fish into the sea to keep up prices, and to prevent the farmers from sending us all the sound fruit and wholesome vegetables they can raise.

The "prosperity" of which we read so much is largely a myth. The average man gets less now for his money than he ever did. Wages and salaries have not kept pace—except in a few fields—with the new cost of living.

If the community is too careless or too selfish to reduce prices—as it could—by organizing coöperative societies, in heaven's name let the municipal and state authorities do something besides chattering and "investigating."

CHARLES HENRY MELTZER.

New York, Oct. 10, 1916.

## Canadian Shipping

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The next time that Mr. Weaver submits you any such communication as that on Canadian shipping which you published to-day you had better check up his facts before you print it. The statement that 92 per cent of the traffic of the Great Lakes was carried by United States vessels prior to the war and that our percentage of it has been increasing is perfectly absurd. There was never any such percentage in our favor, and for the last twenty years the Canadian proportion has been steadily growing, causing a great deal of uneasiness on the part of American owners. As the business in which I am engaged is one very largely connected with the lake shipping trade, I am in a position to know the facts of the case.

A more amusing mistake is the statement that widening and deepening canals would permit large ocean-going vessels to go "to the grain elevators at Port Arthur and Fort William and even as far inland as Thunder Bay"; this being made apparently in ignorance of the fact that there is no such town as Thunder Bay, which is a body of water on one side of which is Port Arthur and the other Fort William. The argument that Canadian shipyards are unable to compete with American yards because the latter were "effectively protected" is rather extraordinary, even from a protectionist standpoint, as the whole argument for protection is that it is needed to guard against competition from countries that are not effectively protected.

E. J. SHRIVER.

New York, Oct. 10, 1916.

# HUGHES GAINING IN MIDDLE WEST

### Wisconsin, Montana, Colorado and Nebraska Still Doubtful

[From a Staff Correspondent of The Tribune]

Chicago, Oct. 13.—With election less than a month away, leaders at Republican headquarters here have begun a final canvass of Western states. It is admitted that prospects are not all that could be desired, nor up to Republican standards in the past, but they are represented as being much better than a month ago.

Several states still worry A. T. Hert, the Western manager, but these have been offset by gains in others formerly considered doubtful. Indiana is now set down as certain for Hughes. Since the Republican candidate's visit to the state several weeks ago, the tide has been running strongly, and observers do not believe that even President Wilson's two speeches at Indianapolis can check it.

Alarmist reports about Illinois have also been dismissed with the returns of last Saturday's registration, which, if the deductions of politicians can be trusted, show that women in this state, at least, have not been stampeded by Democratic "peace" hysteria. Republicans claim the support of the suffragists by almost two to one.

**Worry Over Four States.**

The states about which the Republicans are still frankly in doubt are Wisconsin, Montana, Colorado and Nebraska. Attempts to put Michigan in the doubtful class are not regarded seriously, although it is admitted that the situation there is far from harmonious.

Neither are Democratic claims regarding the Pacific Coast states believed to be based on anything more than flamboyant hope. The removal of the duties on lumber has been severely felt, and the tariff is a strong issue there. The renomination of Senator Miles Poindexter is believed to have ended whatever hopes the Democrats had of carrying Washington. Wisconsin is a good example of the uncertain states. The state has always been as Republican as its neighbor, Minnesota. But Senator La Follette, running for re-election as a Republican, is on a peace platform and advocating an embargo on munitions shipments. His principal organ, "The Wisconsin State Journal," of Madison, is openly supporting President Wilson.

For this curious political paradox apparently there is only one explanation. La Follette strength, it is taken for granted, will be thrown to the President. In addition, in Wisconsin there has developed in the party a curious duel between the American or "native" element and the German-American. Rather than see the latter capture control of the organization, it is feared that many of the "natives" will bolt the ticket. With the loss of both these groups, it is not likely that Hughes can pull through.

**Trouble in Michigan.**

In Michigan the principal trouble has been the disaffection of the Progressives. Although in most of the middle states nearly 85 per cent of the Moose have returned to the party, in Michigan there has been a great deal of bad blood. The Ford peace vote was also a bad symptom, but against this Republicans match the preparedness reception accorded Colonel Roosevelt in Detroit.

Democrats have been greatly disappointed at the stand of the Farmers' Alliance in the Northwestern states toward Wilson and the rural credits law. Not only have the farmers indorsed Hughes, but they have condemned the rural credits law as inadequate. They complain that they already have sufficient facilities for land mortgages, but that what they need most is credit on crop advances or on chattels.

In North Dakota, Senator McCumber, Republican, is having a hard fight to retain his seat, as he is opposed by John Burke, treasurer of the United States, and one of the most popular men in the state.

Montana is classed as doubtful by the Republicans because of the labor situation in that state. The labor vote in and around the Butte district is overwhelmingly Democratic. The only hope the Republicans really have is in the recent immigration to the Eastern end. This is largely agricultural, and its population has been drawn mainly from strong Republican states. In figures they should nearly balance the labor vote, but as this is the first time they have figured in the election no one can predict the result with accuracy.

# ANTI-LITTER LEAGUES URGED FOR ALL CITIES

### Appleton Appeals for Anti-Refuse Education

The organization of an anti-litter league in every city and a nation-wide campaign of education to prevent the people from throwing refuse and dirt into the streets were urged yesterday by R. Ross Appleton, treasurer of the New York Anti-Litter League, before the second annual convention of the Society for Street Cleaning and Refuse Disposal, in the Department of Street Cleaning building, 149 West Twentieth Street.

"Most of the dirt in the big cities," he said, "is in the doorways and areaways and on the sidewalks. If every property owner and tenant would keep his premises clean we would hear out little more of the refuse in the streets."

Other speakers at yesterday's sessions included John T. Fetherston, Commissioner of Street Cleaning; president of the society; Nelson P. Lewis, chief engineer of the Board of Estimate; G. B. Wilson, of Toronto; G. H. Hanna, of Cleveland; A. T. Rhodes, of Worcester, Mass., and Richard T. Fox, of Chicago.

## Red Cross Efficiency Seen

A demonstration of Red Cross efficiency and preparedness was given when, within twenty-four hours of the receipt of a telephone message from Washington directing the mobilization of the equipment of the Presbyterian Base Hospital Unit, at Philadelphia, the equipment and supplies, which had been stored at the Bush Terminal, had been loaded in freight cars and sent on their way.

## Czar Honors Loan Agent Here

A cable message from Petrograd has been received announcing the Czar has conferred the Order of St. Stanilas of the first class upon Gregory Wilenken, representative in the United States of the Russian Minister of Finance during the negotiations relative to the Russian war loans floated in this country.

## Forum to Debate Campaign

The issues of the coming Presidential campaign will be debated to-morrow night at the opening of the Lenox Hill Public Forum, Lenox Hill Settlement House, 511 East Sixty-ninth Street, by Representative John J. Fitzgerald and C. P. Connolly, a magazine writer. William A. Ferguson will preside.